

# THE BANNER.



ABBEVILLE C. H., S. C.:  
Wednesday, August 25, 1847.

## A Vegetable Curiosity.

We have been presented by Mr. Robert Brady of this District a *Beet* of mammoth size and which is really a curiosity, it weighs 103-4 lbs, and is 23 1-4 inches in circumference and the same in length. We should like to see the Beet that *beats* this.

## East Tennessee University.

We would call the attention of parents, and those desirous of acquiring a College education, to the advertisement of Eastern University found in this week's paper.

## Latest from Mexico.

By the Steamer New Orleans which arrived at that city bring dates from Vera Cruz to the 7th inst., and from Tampico to the 10th, we have the latest news from Mexico which is of but little interest. Various rumors had reached Vera Cruz purporting to be from the city of Mexico, and one of these is the old story of commissioners being appointed by Santa Anna, to meet Mr. Trist. The correspondent of the Picayune writing from Vera Cruz, attaches importance to it.

A train left Vera Cruz the evening of the 6th inst., for the army at Puebla, under command of Col. Wilson of the 12th Infantry. The train was escorted by from 1500 to 2000 men: Four deserters arrived at Jalapa on the 30 of July, three from Puebla, and one from Gen. Pierce's train; the Boletín a Mexican paper says these from Puebla report that the desertions were very great in the American army, and that seventy-three were advertised all in one day.

Nothing is said with regard to the movement of Gen. Scott, and the probability is that he is still at Puebla.

## From Monterey.—Advance of Gen. Taylor.

A correspondent of the N. O. Delta writing from Monterey, July 27th, says:—A move to San Luis Potosi has finally been decided on. All the departments connected with Gen. Taylor's column, are actively engaged in preparing for the march. The 1st September is the time fixed upon for the forward movement. The forces under Gen. Taylor would seem, in my opinion, to be inadequate for such an undertaking, but the old Hero has to use his favourite quotation, determined on the matter *volens volens*.

## Catholics in the United States.

The Catholic Almanac for 1847, says that the number of priests in the United S. is 834, being an accession of 98 in one year; and also that there are 812 churches, 72 of which were erected during the past year. In addition to this number there are 577 stations visited by clergymen, but as yet without any commodious and suitable place of worship.

## Interesting.

The Washington correspondent of the *New York Courier & Enquirer* says:—"I know positively, and say so, without fear of being contradicted, that the British Government and the British Minister in Mexico are perfectly agreed that we should keep Upper and Lower California on the terms proposed by Mr. BUCHANAN in the second instructions sent to Mr. TRIST, and Mr. BANKHEAD was earnestly urging on the Mexican Government the policy of accepting at once the proffered peace. And I can further inform you that SANTA ANNA is most solicitous for peace; but that the Congress, detesting SANTA ANNA, and fearing the return of his military rule after the troops under General SCOTT shall be withdrawn, is anxious for another battle, in which they know SANTA ANNA will be defeated, and with him all the military tyrants and extortioners of Mexico. SANTA ANNA is now surely in a deplorable condition, pressed by friend and foe, and I should not be surprised to see him, after the battle he may be urged to fight, surrender at discretion to General SCOTT. This is the opinion that has been obtained among the officers of our army generally, and I am informed that General SCOTT himself shares it with most of his staff. The fact that a large Mexican army is now again concentrated on one spot is considered most favorable to the termination of the war, as the blow which will be struck will be a decisive one, and prevent our army from being harassed in detail. General SCOTT, you may depend upon, will release no more prisoners on parole, but will either send them to Vera Cruz or New Orleans, to prevent their fighting us again or to instigate the Mexicans to renewed resistance."

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(FOR THE BANNER.)

Mr. Editor:—I informed your readers in the last Banner that Dr. Pressly paid me one hundred and twenty dollars, to constitute the Rev. W. R. Hemphill a Life Director of the American Bible Society, and that he relied upon Mr. Hemphill's congregation to refund a part of the amount to him. I have just received a letter from Mr. Hemphill, informing me that on last Sabbath the congregation actually made up ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-TWO DOLLARS; instead of one hundred and twenty, which amount, added to the thirty previously received, makes up the handsome sum of ONE HUNDRED AND NINETY TWO DOLLARS. "Well done" Cedar Spring and Long Cane.

ISAAC BRANCH.

24, August, 1847.

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE ABBEVILLE BANNER.  
WINNSBORO, AUG. 19.

Mr. Editor:—When I left Abbeville, you made a request of me, which I have not complied with as yet, viz: to write an occasional article for the "Banner." I will now put a few thoughts on this sheet, which, if you think proper, you can insert. You are aware, that, my "metes and bounds" are quite extensive, and afford me an ample opportunity of judging, and forming an opinion of men and things. Of this, I have made good and profitable use, so far as my own personal experience is concerned, though what has afforded me instruction and amusement might fail to impart anything good or pleasant to others. Of this in the present case you are to be the sole judge. I will then call your attention, and that of your readers, to certain localities, and some circumstances which give them a claim to notice and entitle them to a place on the impartial historic page.

I will begin with Chester District.—Perhaps very few of your readers have any personal knowledge of the history or inhabitants of this portion of our State. Chester was first settled in 1750, chiefly by emigrants from Pennsylvania and Virginia. Its name was derived from a county in the former State. A considerable number of emigrants from the Emerald Isle were made to its population in 1763 after the Peace of Paris. I think the great majority of its settlers may trace their origin to the Irish. They are of that, valuable class of Irish who adhere most rigidly and consistently to the great and soul-saving doctrines of Protestant Christianity; and I need scarcely add, they are valuable citizens. The population of the District at the last census (1840,) was 17,747 including white and colored; showing an increase, in twenty years, of nearly four thousand inhabitants. The next census will exhibit a considerable falling off as many persons, in consequence of the failure of the crops two years ago, have been induced to emigrate to the West. The lands in Chester are in respect to soil, various, but generally fertile, well rewarding the faithful toil of the husbandman. They contain large proportions of clay, red, grey, and mulatto, more or less mixed with primitive substances. The ridges between the water courses are sandy, with other light soil; whilst the low grounds are sometimes stony, with gravel and much rich loam. The face of the country is hilly and uneven, abounding with the finest granite and soap stone. No mineral or metal substances have been anywhere discovered. Chester is the seat of justice for the District and is beautifully situated upon the ridge which divides the waters of the Broad and the Catawba Rivers, at the head of the east branch of the Sandy River. The situation is lofty and romantic and so commanding, that it has been likened to one of the strong fortresses of the feudal times and barons—a little San Marino, equally secure in position, as in the possession of a free, fearless, and contented population. The grounds about it slope on all sides in the manner of a glacis; and the woods are cleared beyond the reach of cannon shot. The town contains a handsome Court House and Jail, two Academies, Male and Female, with three Churches, Baptist, Presbyterian, and Methodist. The jail is decidedly the finest building in the place, and a stranger in passing by it, would not for a moment think that it is one of "the Houses Jack built."—There are many tasty private residences in

the village, which give it quite a desirable appearance to the traveller. Her citizens are kind and hospitable and quite a church going people. Chester District is not without her revolutionary interest. It was in this District, near the waters of the Esawpuddenah, or Broad River, that General SUMNER defeated the British under Weyms; and here also, on the banks of Fishing Creek, this brave patriot met a severe reverse of the fortunes of war; suffering a surprise, by which his troops were totally routed. Her gallant citizens did their full share in the toils and labors of that bloody struggle. Colonel LACEY, who nobly distinguished himself at the battles of Hanging rock, Kings mountains, and Black stock's was a native of Chester District. The patriotism of that day still lives in the hearts of her people. Old Chester was the first district in South Carolina to respond to the call for volunteers for Mexico. She furnished her full quota of able, intelligent and worthy young men, who will no doubt do honor to themselves and credit to their ancestors and their native district "in the tented field."

Of late much interest has been excited with respect to the proposed rail road from Columbia to Charlotte, N. C. and the people have said by a \$200,000 subscription of stock we must have the road. I believe a rail road through this District would greatly add to the value of the lands and much enrich its owners. Cotton is produced in fine quality and quantity for market, but, the roads are so very bad, it is almost impossible to pass over them in safety, much less with speed, a wagon and team with a load of cotton in the winter, or early spring will take about ten days to go and return from market. This I take to be a very slow business. I thought I had seen and passed over bad roads in Abbeville District but, your roads are good at all seasons, compared to the black-jack roads in Chester. "The Devil's race paths" in Edgefield are "not so bad after all," by their side.

MORE ANON.

(REPORTED FOR THE ABBEVILLE BANNER.)  
RAIL ROAD MEETING.

At a rail road meeting held at Downs Calhoun's on Thursday 19th Instant Dr. T. R. Gary was called to the chair and explained in a lengthy and forcible address the objects of the meeting. The meeting being organized, Capt. T. B. Byrd moved—"That a committee of ten be appointed to devise ways and means to procure Subscription for the building of the contemplated R. Road from Columbia to Greenville through Abbeville and Anderson and to recommend such means as will best unite the various conflicting opinions, and give concert of action in accomplishing an enterprise of great importance to our whole country."

The committee was appointed and retired for two or three hours, during which time Messrs. Jones, Heller and Cunningham, of Laurens, entertained the assemblage—with animated speeches. The latter Gentleman interested us with a very beautiful Speech, in which he compared the Steam Engine upon the land to the gallant Ship and compass upon the waters. He said as he was from Laurens, he felt bound to lend his efforts to taking the road through his native District, but if Laurens could not succeed, Abbeville too should have his mite. In the progress of his remarks the committee returned, and submitted the following

## REPORT:

"Your committee would respectfully beg leave to report that they have examined the subject referred to them for their consideration, and would recommend the adoption of the following Preamble and resolutions:

It is with regret that your committee have seen such a diversity of opinion on a subject of such vast importance to the citizens of Abbeville District generally, and that so many have taken stock with conditions annexed. We believe that the conditions laid down in the charter are the only terms on which we should take stock. That if the road should not run on the West side of Saluda, crossing near the mouth of Wilson's Creek or Island Ford, we have the privilege of withdrawing our subscriptions; and any money paid to the Commissioners is bound to be refunded. We would respectfully recommend to those who have taken stock with conditions annexed, to withdraw the conditions and submit the location of the route through this District to the Engineers and to the judgement of the stockholders, whom we believe will locate the road on the most practicable route to insure the greatest amount of trade and travel, and they would respectfully recommend the following resolutions:

*Resolved* That a series of meetings be held at the following times and places—at Abbeville C. H. on Sale day next, at Due West on Tuesday 7th, Douglass Mills on Wednesday 8th; Bulah Church on Thursday 9th; Jourdan's Store, Friday 10th; at Cambridge, in the Old Fort, Saturday 11th.

*Resolved*, That this committee do recommend, that the Commissioners, appointed to take stock, take into consideration the propriety of requesting a survey of the Abbeville route.

*Resolved*, That a general meeting of the friends (of the Abbeville route) of the contemplated road, be held at Cokesbury on Thursday the 23d of Sept'r. next

*Resolved*, That the Commissioners of Abbeville Anderson and Pickens are respectfully invited to attend said meeting and report the amount of stock subscribed.

*Resolved*, That this meeting request the Commissioners to procure speakers for the various meetings appointed.

Your Committee hope that the citizens of the above named places will make preparations for the various meetings.

*Resolved*. That the proceedings of this meeting be published in the Abbeville Banner.

After the adoption of the report, the Chairman of the eating Committee invited us to the spring where we found a most sumptuous and well served dinner, for which the secretary thinks a special resolution of thanks should have been voted.

After compliments to the dining Committee the crowd repaired to the stand, when Mr. Joel Smith was called for: Mr. Smith exhibited great zeal in his remarks—he was one of those who had been disposed to doubt the propriety of Abbeville moving in this matter. He had thought at first that there was but little chance of her success: but he had buried his scruples and was now convinced, that if the money was subscribed we would get the road.

After he concluded the meeting was addressed by Messrs. Connor, and Anderson of Laurens and adjourned.

T. R. GARY, Ch'n.

J. N. COCHRAN, Sec'y

Mr. Editor:—What magic mesh chains down the people of Abbeville? Is it not time, in this age of progress and improvement, that they should arouse up to their present interest, and look forward to their future destiny? Will they continue to play the profitless game of *Rip Van*; to while their time in fruitless dreams until the very last opportunity to join in the march to prosperity shall be snatched from them? Will they yet stand upon the verge of the mighty thoroughfare and gaze with upstretched necks, like frightened birds, at the busy march of commerce and commercial facility, without sense to appreciate, or energy to embrace its advantages? Will they be content to live under a lethargy that hangs like an incubus upon them, foreboding a legacy to posterity, of poverty, desolation and ruin? Will they be so inhuman as not to love their children and confer upon them one of the greatest blessings ever realized by a people? Will they be so ungrateful as not to love their country; the land of their nativity and the home of their fathers? Where are the once prosperous inhabitants of Abbeville? Look at the neatly improved and well cultivated farms scattered over her surface, and ask the question how many have been their occupants in the last 20 years and whither have they gone? Let the middle aged man look around him and see where are the associates of his boyhood. The tide of emigration has swept them to the West in search of a more favored land. That same tide is still desolating our country and impoverishing it of its most enterprising and useful citizens. Will not those who cherish this as the soil of their birth; who hallow its solemn treasures of the dead; who read upon the sacred mable of the cemetery the christian example of their fathers and are admonished by the memory of the past to lift their orisons to the living God: Will they not feel interest sufficiently strong to bind them to Abbeville and influence them to lend their might to the subversion of an evil which has burst the strongest ties of kindred love and scattered her families all over the Earth? There are few sections of the world, if any, possessing greater natural advantages than Abbeville District.—There is nothing lacking, with the fertility of its soil and the geniality of its climate, but trading facilities to develop its resources and make it one of the most desirable abodes of the earth. These facilities are now offered us if we will embrace them.—The most business and calculating men amongst us, now say, if we will take the stock there is no doubt but we will get the Road. We think Mr. Editor where there is an incalculable value to be acquired the price of its acquisition should not be weighed. We believe that if Abbeville district were to mortgage her whole capital and labor

for the next ten years, to procure this road, the cost would be cheap. Especially when we consider this the only chance she will ever have to get a road. Which is most surely the case unless the contemplated road from Columbia to Greenville should fail. If the friends of that enterprise should be disappointed in their undertaking, then a road will certainly be built from Hamburg or Aiken which must pass through Abbeville, and for that reason, if no other, is preferable to her citizens. But should we lie idle hoping only for that contingency, under the existing probabilities of the completion of the former route?

With the facts before us that they already have seven hundred thousand dollars subscribed; that Columbia, Newberry, Edgefield, Laurens and Greenville would pull against the Aiken route; and only Abbeville and Pendleton, probably Charleston, for it, the chances preponderate strongly in favor of the Columbia road. It has been urged that if we would hold off, the project must fail. If the road cannot be built without the aid of Abbeville, it certainly proves that she will hold the balance power and can locate the route where she pleases. Then we had better take our stand on safe ground, since getting the road is the paramount object, whether from Aiken, Hamburg or Columbia. Let us organize our forces, know our strength, and tell to the world what we can and will do in this matter. Then should things take a direction in favor of Aiken, as is urged by a writer of the *Mountaineer*, we are willing, and can soon direct our energies to that point. Though we do not concede to that writer that such would be a more profitable route, or that it would pass through a more fertile and populous section of the country.

May we not expect something from our friends of the Savannah regiment, in a matter of such general interest? Surely, if they are not interested in the general good of the district, they will bestir themselves to advance their own pecuniary interest.—For we contend that every individual on that side whose plantation will be in twenty five miles of said road, will have a deeper personal interest in it, than he now has in the boating conveniences of Savannah river.

We have heard much said of late, about the intelligence of Abbeville District. That her citizens are comparatively an enlightened people, cannot be denied. We know that to her, the world is indebted for some of the greatest statesmen of the age. That to her this nation owes the discovery of that balance wheel to the general Government *State Rights*: That to the indomitable zeal and resistless reason of her sons must be acknowledged the extension of *free trade*, which is fast becoming the established doctrine of the world. But that she is not hurt with an over stock of enlightenment, the following facts will evidence. By the census of 1840 there are 13,880 free white persons in the District. Out of that number, there are 6001 who are over the age of 20 years; and out of that number of 6001, there are 1,279 who can neither read or write.—Thus making the startling proportion of almost one-fourth of the grown persons of this highly refined and enlightened District, who are debared the privileges of a common Grammar school. Now is it not incumbent upon Abbeville, to exert her every ability to still further enlighten her citizens? To extend to the poor man as well as the rich, by giving a market at his door, the means not only to support himself, by the sweat of his brow, but to devote at least a pittance to the education of his children. Where are there greater means of civilization and enlightenment, than in commercial and travelling facilities? Already the Northeast presents one chequered map of rail road intersection: And we think we fore-see the day not far distant, when by the wonder working agency of steam and the fiery wires of electricity, the whole world will throw around her the garb of civilization and enlightenment. When the country of the green mountains and the lone star, shall shake hands: When the Atlantic and the Pacific shall embrace. When the *raw head and bloody bow* of slavery in the South, shall be made familiar to the *soft hearted* abolitionist of the North; when these United States shall be bound together by inseparable bars of iron: Then shall the perpetuity of our institutions be fixed; the palladium of our liberties laid, and its foundation will be a rock. SALUDA.

DISCOVERIES OF ANTIQUITIES IN ENGLAND.—The excavators employed in making a cutting for a new railway, near Portsmouth, having uncovered a Roman burial ground, in which many skeletons and funeral urns have been found. In the township of Hale, in the course of forming an inclosure for a plantation, the spades of the workmen struck against the stump or stock of an old oak tree, which had been previously buried in the soil, when out tumbled several small silver coins, several of the size, or nearly so, of a modern sixpence, which had been thus concealed for two centuries, at the least, in the fissure of the stump or root. Eight of these were regained from the laborers who had them in possession. Regarding the earliest of them, which was much rubbed, there is some little obscurity;—it has been referred perhaps correctly, to the reign of Edward the Sixth. Other four distinctly show the dates of 1471, 1573, 1584, and 1595, of the reign of Elizabeth, while the remaining three are of the coinage of James the first, upon two of which the dates may be read of 1604 and 1623. In judging from the appearance presented by the coin of the newest stamp, namely that of 1602, the infer-